

Tripartite Cohort Meeting
October 2, 2008, 9 a.m.
Minutes

Members present: Bob lake, Judi Repman, Jodi Woodrum, Fred Rich, Dianne Bath, Pat Parsons, Stephanie Kenney.

Reading Discussion: *Colleges become Democracy 'Boot Camps'* The following ideas were generated from this discussion.

- The value of doing democracy in p-16 may be claimed but not really practiced.
- When democracy is actually practiced, the messiness and ambiguity it creates may cause students to resist. Students seem to prefer to be told what to do. We need to anticipate and plan for these challenges.
- The structures are in place for democracy to happen in higher education; however, it is not necessarily happening.
- Public schools and universities have very little flexibility due to externally imposed policies, procedures, and mandates.
- Higher Ed. needs to model it, so it will be seen and tried in the public schools.
- There are pockets of democracy practice in our university; several specific examples were provided – from COST, COE, and CLASS, giving evidence that it can be done!
- Online instruction can be structured in such a way that students are forced to write/give opinions, all having a voice. On line all can talk at once so all can have a voice. Compared to equivalent fact-too-face, there is much more opportunity for voice. Chats can be archived so students can reference earlier discussions.
- There remains the issue of whether we encourage or facilitate our students' involvement in political action. Our students who complete student teaching in the UK and those UK students who come here for student teaching all notice that school students in the UK have much more voice and control re. their learning compared to students in the States.

Directions for the Year

- High-Flying Schools – Stephanie requested and received Tripartite support in selecting High Flying Schools for 2009. The application deadline is Dec. 1; more information will be sent to Tripartite members closer to that date.
- Supporting LODS School/PLC – We want to support Danny as he works with his staff and students to develop democratic practices in his school. We need to get to know his school. For this reason we will hold our next meeting at the PLC. Jodi (in conjunction with Fran Stephens) will schedule this with Danny Edenfield.
- Research Related to the AED – Caren shared the idea of the “democracy walk” and recommended that we consider a modified version of that walk, using the equity survey questions. Caren will contact Patrick Novotny to inquire about other activities around democracy practices may be currently going on. We will consider developing section of FYE 1220 around the AED.

- Partner School Leadership Roundtable – We discussed the viability of public school faculty’s involvement in our campus reading roundtables. Dianne will investigate this with CET.
- Equity Survey – Dianne (assisted by Judi) will send the survey using Survey Monkey.

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Name for the Tripartite Group – We need a group title that is meaningful to all constituents and descriptive of the work we do. The group decided on “GCER Partnership”

Work in Progress

- Two Million Minutes - Judi shared the flyer for “The Global Imperative”. Dianne is working on procedures for P-12 faculty to receive PLUs for attending this event.
- Specific ways to help schools – Jodi suggested any focus around the election, Constitution Day, and the revised social studies standards.